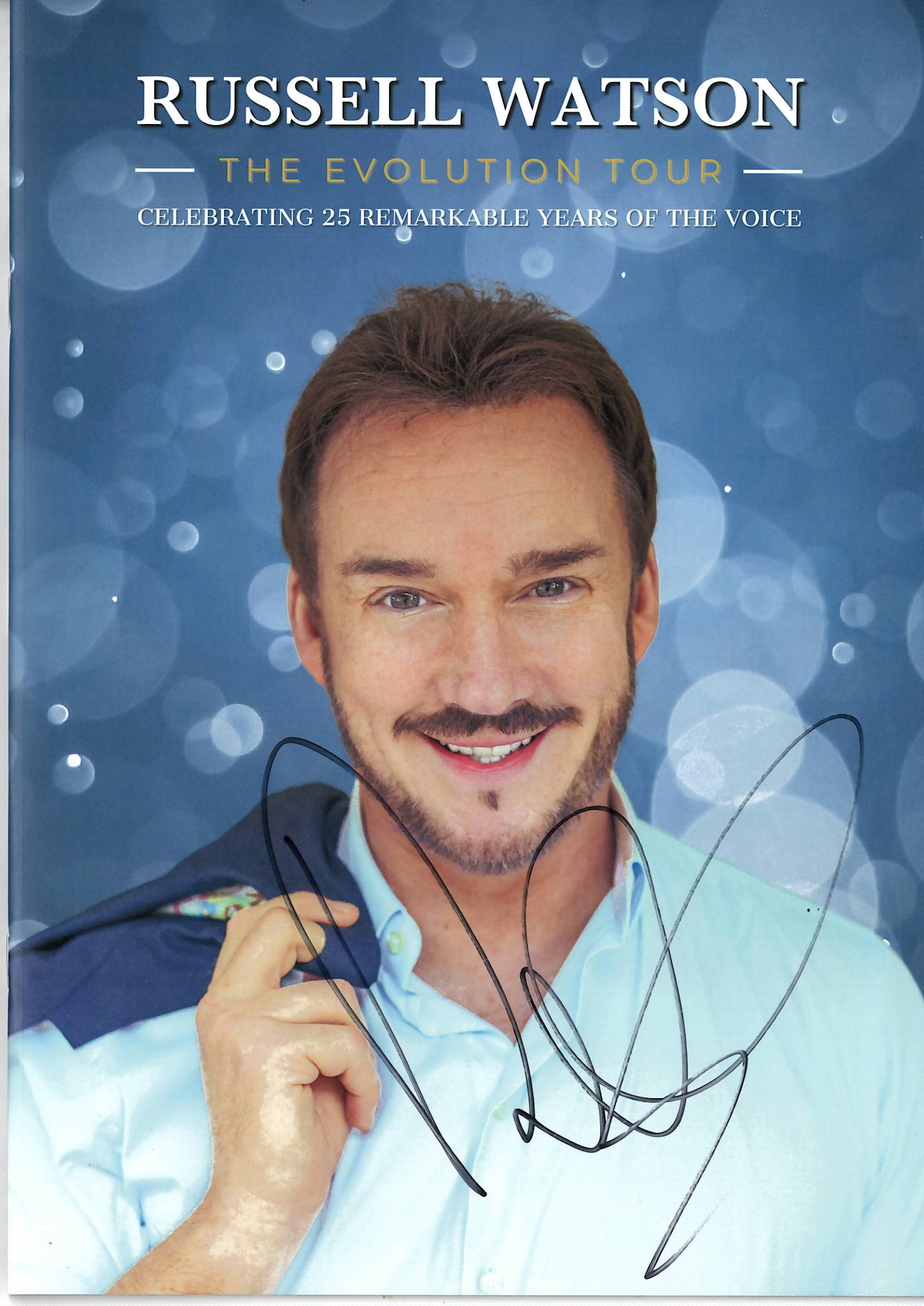
RUSSELL WATSON

THE EVOLUTION TOUR

CELEBRATING 25 REMARKABLE YEARS OF THE VOICE



Welcome to the Evolution tour,

It's been twenty five years since the release of my first record breaking album, **'The Voice'**...

A quarter of a century has passed by, and in some respects it feels like a hundred years have passed, when I reflect on the triumphs and tragedies of those years.

Retrospectively though, it only feels like yesterday that I was stepping into Air Lyndhurst studios, (owned by the legendary George Martin) backed by the Royal Philharmonic orchestra under the baton of Nick Ingman. The rapid success of that first release evolved into a rollercoaster of incredible career highlights!

From incredible sporting events to Royal engagements, the Emperor of Japan, U.S Presidents and a very special performance for Pope John Paul II, all incredible moments.

Now to this evenings performance, which I feel reflects those years gone by. Songs that mean a great deal to me and catalyse so many wonderful memories through the medium of music. Music that inspires and awakens the senses, where the intention is to take you on a journey. From my recent collaboration with Helen Jane long, through to the classical repertoire and even a Star Trek theme tune, the aim is to please.

Finally, thank to all the fans who have been here since the start, those who joined along the way and the ones joining us for the first time.

Thank you so much,

Russell x

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REPERTOIRE

Russell likes to delight audiences each evening with a different set of songs, many of which are selected from his repertoire below:

Parla Più Piano

E Sarà Così

Aprile

A Vucchella

Ave Maria

The Prayer

Bring Him Home

People Get Ready

We Will Stand Together

Abide With Me

How Great Thou Art

Core 'ngrato

Parlami D'Amore Mariù

Intermezzo

Panis Angelicus

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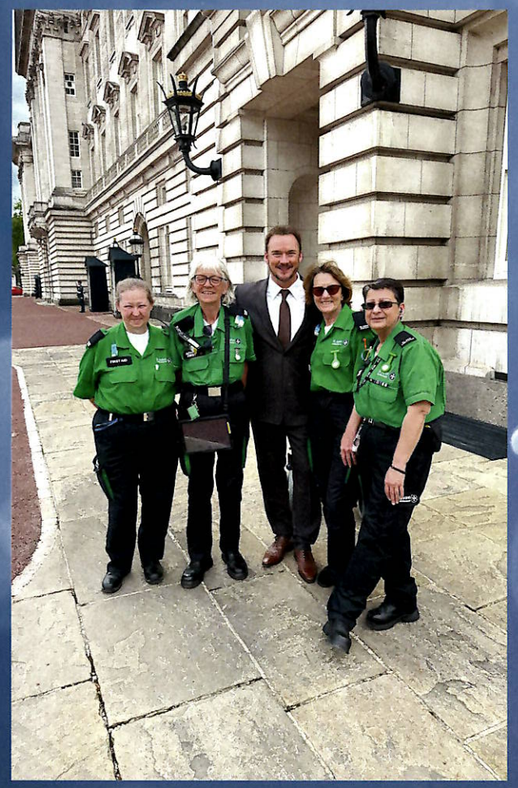

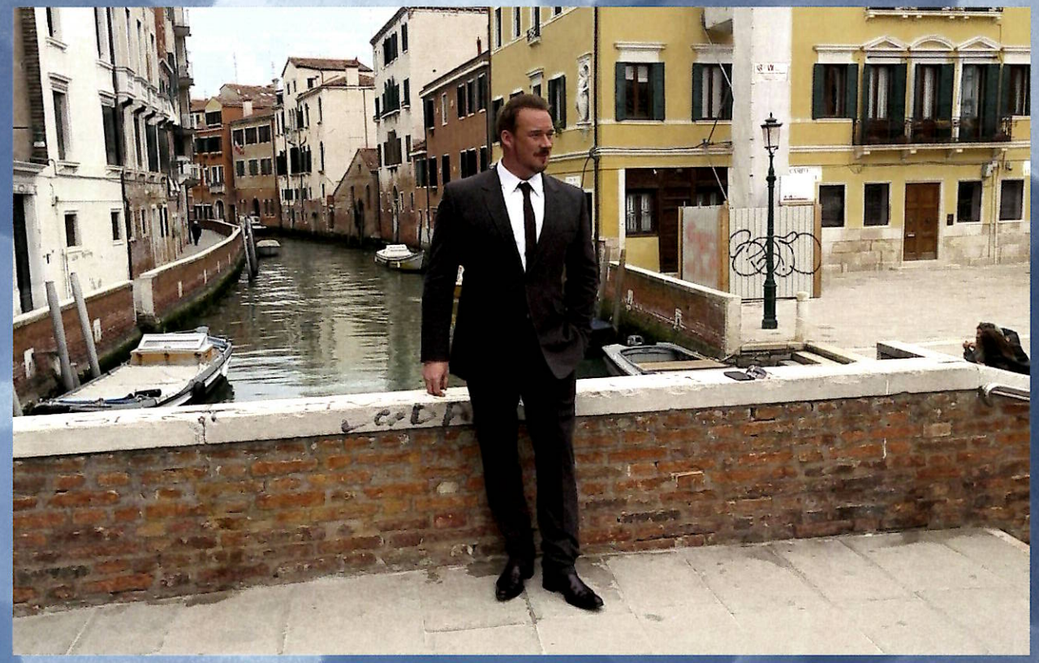

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All Dressing
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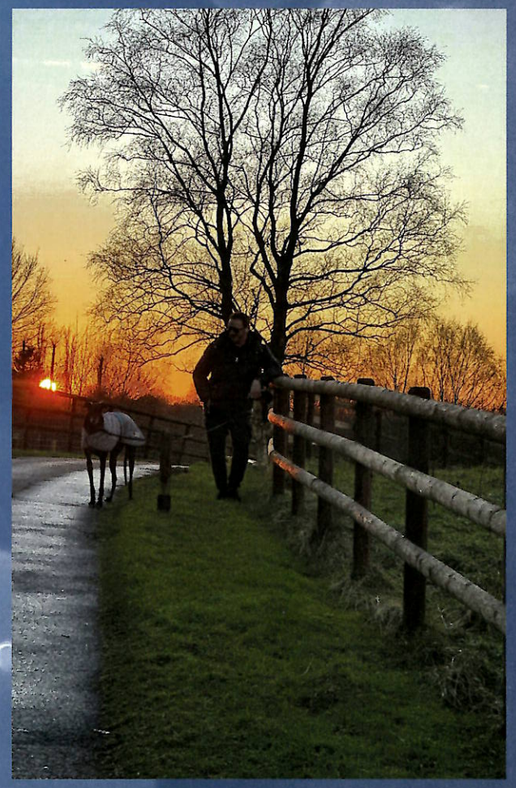
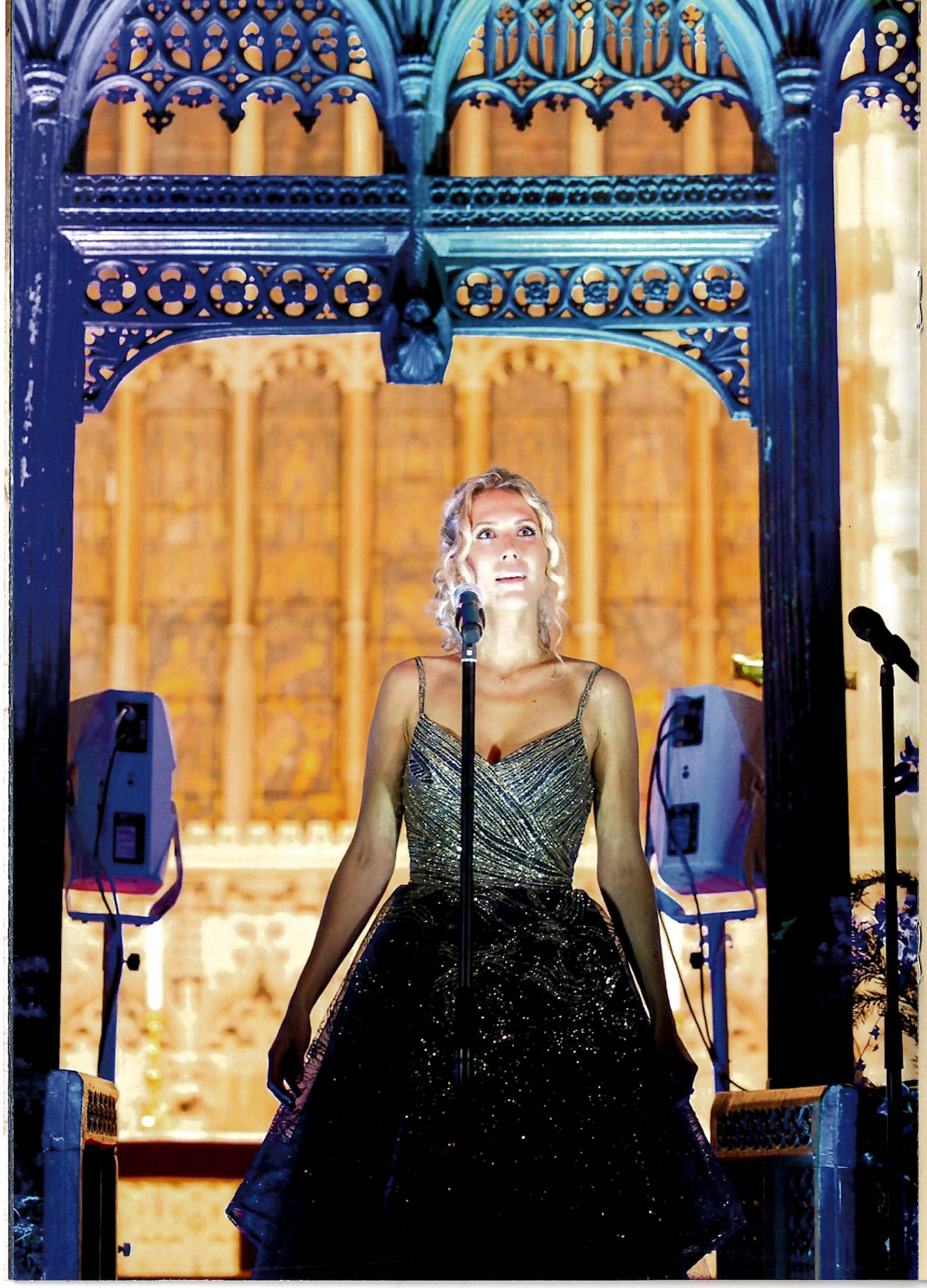




SPECIAL GUEST: NANCY MAY

Nancy May is an Essex-based classical crossover soprano.

Nancy trained at the Royal Northern College of Music, and has now gone on to forge her own career performing in and around the Essex area, including singing with Russell on his **Magnificent Buildings Tour 2023/24.**

Nancy is passionate about supporting charities and has been humbled to sing each year at the Grenfell memorial service with the most recent at Westminster Abbey. Charities supported include **Farleigh Hospice, Great Ormond Street Hospital, The Royal British Legion** and more recently **'FaNs Network',** a charity helping care homes throughout Essex.

Nancy also teaches singing, and her lessons are in high demand due to her unique style of using singing as a way to build personal confidence.

Throughout 2020 & 2021 (During Lockdown) she performed online concerts via Facebook. These concerts saw thousands joining her each Friday evening and helped Nancy gain an audience from all over the world.

Nancy recently released her debut album **'With Love'** and an EP titled, **'Why Not'**. The EP saw Nancy take some more modern songs and create a new unique style, whilst remaining true to her classical background.

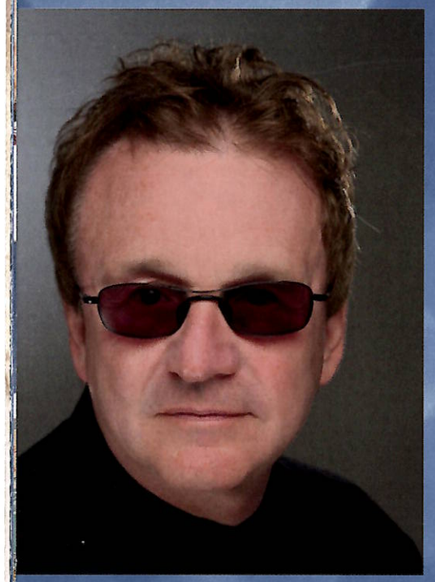
Nancy is honoured to have performed as the special guest for several of Russell Watson's concerts on his most recent tour. She sang with him in **Winchester Cathedral, Chelmsford Cathedral, St. Nicholas Chapel in King's Lynn, Truro Cathedral and Shrewsbury Abbey.**

Nancy will be releasing more music this year which can be found on all download platforms including Spotify and iTunes.

You can keep up to date with Nancy's voice and concerts through her website **nancy-may.co.uk** and her social media **@nancymaysoprano**.

MIKE MORAN - MUSICAL DIRECTOR

Mike Moran is one of the United Kingdom's best known musicians. Since graduating from London's Royal College of Music, he has had a distinguished career in many different areas of the music business.



As a keyboard player, arranger, musical director and producer, he has worked with many of the world's superstars, including Sir Paul McCartney, Stevie Wonder, Paul Simon, George Harrison, Robert Plant, Sir Cliff Richard, Jimmy Webb, Julio Iglesias, Placido Domingo, Jose Carreras, Dionne Warwick, Julian Lennon, Ashford and Simpson, Kate Bush, Montserrat Caballe, Ozzy Osbourne, Oliver Nelson, Jack Jones, Wayne Shorter, Ringo Starr, Carly Simon, Dusty Springfield, Rod Stewart, George Michael, Extreme, Joe Cocker, Heart, Survivor and Queen.

Groups Mike has been a member of include Blue Mink, Stone The Crows (later the Maggie Bell Band) and Gillan. Other live engagements have been as Piano/Musical director and conductor to Leo Sayer, Lulu, Elaine Paige, Russell Watson, Rod Stewart, Jose Carreras, Dionne Warwick, Sir Cliff Richard and David Cassidy.

A songwriting collaboration with Lynsey de Paul in 1977 led to Mike and Lynsey representing the UK in that year's Eurovision Song Contest.

Mike worked a great deal with the late Freddie Mercury and their major collaboration was the album Barcelona which features Montserrat Caballe and Freddie together. Mike and Freddie wrote all the material (Sir Tim Rice co-wrote lyrics on three tracks) and the album was co-produced by Mike and Freddie. Queen also recorded tracks written by Mike and Freddie.

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Mike's credits as a record producer include four albums for **Elaine Paige** and other recordings by Gino Vannelli Extreme, Heart, Survivor, Montserrat Caballe, George Harrison, Freddie Mercury, Queen, Placido Domingo, Georgie Fame, Lemar,The Hollies, Lulu, The Celtic Tenors and a number of Theatre and movie soundtrack albums.

As a movie composer, Mike wrote and orchestrated a number of movies for George Harrison's company Handmade Films including the cult film Time Bandits directed by Terry Gilliam, The Missionary and Water. Other film credits include Deathwish 3, The Bitch, The Greek Tycoon, Top Secret, Betrayal, Whoops Apocalypse, Blessed, A Fox's Tale,The Scarlet Pimpernel and Sherlock.

He has composed original music for over 100 networked T.V productions including Harry's Game, Taggart, Sharman, Sex, Chips and Rock n' Roll, New Tricks El Cid, Chandler and Co, The Scarlet Pimpernel, The Contract and **78 animated films for CBeebies** children's series Everything's Rosie. Documentaries include This England and Never and Always for Denis Mitchell, and Colossus for Jacques Cousteau.

In Musical Theatre, Mike's credit's include Production Musical Director on the rock musical Time at the Dominion starring **Sir Cliff Richard and Sir Laurence Olivier.** He continued working with Sir Cliff as Production Musical Director on Heathcliff. Mike produced the London cast album of the King & I for Warner Records, following an earlier success with Piaf, both starring Elaine Paige. In August 2009, as musical director to Denise van Outen, Mike performed at the Edinburgh Festival in Denise's one woman show Blondes and in 2012 following as Production.

Conducting credits include concerts and recordings with the London Symphony Orchestra, The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, The B.B.C. Concert Orchestra. The Utah Symphony Orchestra, The Tokyo Philharmonic, The Sydney Symphony Orchestra, The Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, The Wellington Symphonia and the Budapest Philharmonic.

Mike is Professor of Jazz Piano at the Royal College of Music in London and in 2007 was awarded the Gold Badge of Merit from the British Academy of Songwriters and Composers.

ENDORSEMENTS

Russell would like to extend his thanks to the incredible teams that allow his shows, and those at which he performs, to run smoothly and provide fantastic entertainment.

He would also like to thank his own team, including:

JOHN HESSENTHALER | OEP Live

NANCY MAY | Guest Artiste

MIKE MORAN | Musical Director

ROBERT LOMAS, ANDREW SMITH & KEN FALLOWS | Personal Assistants

LOUISE WATSON | Management

LIAM PEASTON | Sound Technician

PAULA HUDSON | Wardrobe

PAUL CUNNINGHAM & TILLY CHILDERHOUSE | Security

Ask Me a Question!

Type Anything Here ...

1 Hilary Oddy:

Faithful or a Traitor? Hope you have watched the show Russell 😂

Hmmmmm, what a quandary. I like the idea of being a faithful but I think it would be a lot of fun being a traitor... so, I think I'd choose to be a traitor!

2 Liz Hore:

Is there a song you've yet to sing, that is so challenging vocally you've not yet attempted it? If so, what is it?

There are many songs that are vocally challenging. I generally keep within my vocal limitations so as not to damage anything. There is one piece I haven't ever attempted, nor will I ever now: Donizetti's La fille du regiment, it has 9 high C's within a very short time frame.

3 Jonathan Farrall:

Who would you most like to Duet with?

I'd love to jump on stage with Coldplay! I would have loved to have had a sing with Whitney Houston, what a voice.

4 Angie Fowler:

Which is your favourite season on your farm and if you could have any other animal to add to your beautiful family what would it be ?

I love Spring, when everything is budding and starting to come back to life again. I'm a keen gardener too, so that's when I get back out there and commence digging and planting again. With regards to animals, I keep saying to my wife, we have enough, no more animals! Maybe a highland cow would be nice though... ha ha ha

5 Judi Wade:

Are you an early bird or a night owl? And do you sleep well?

I'm definitely a night owl, Louise is always asleep before me. Luckily, this gives me the opportunity to watch my favourite TV show, Mortimer and Whitehouse: Gone Fishing. I find it vey relaxing. I sleep well if I'm at home.

6 Clive Taylor:

If you had a choice Russell... to play for Manchester United or have the career you've had, which would it be?

To have my career! I love nothing more than singing and being on stage. Plus my football career would be long gone by now, ha ha

7 Jean Wooding:

Have you a favourite hobby Russell, if you have time for one?

I love tennis but I also love playing my guitar, although that's more of an obsession than a hobby. I love my guitar ha ha!

8 Lynne Allison Allan:

You sing Italian music so beautifully, do you speak Italian?

I wouldn't say I'm fluent in Italian, but I can communicate and read the language.

9 Ken Toft:

What is the best car you ever bought?

The best car I ever bought was a Brown Austin Maestro Vanden Plas he he he...

10 Lorna T Sinar:

Is there still a place you would love to sing at, that you haven't done so yet ?

Oooooh, that's an easy one. I'd love to sing at the La Scala in Milan! Such a beautiful, majestic building that holds within its core so much history. Just wonderful!

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TOUR DATES 2025

Russell is raising the roof at the following venues this year, with more to follow!
Keep an eye out for the latest dates added at www.russellwatson.com/dates

Isle of Man: Gaiety Theatre
26th February 2025

Poole: St Peters Church
28th February 2025

Powys: Brecon Cathedral
1st March 2025

Bury St Edmunds: St Marys Church
8th March 2025

Shrewsbury Abbey
15th March 2025

Wigan: The Edge
29th March 2025

Northwich: Arley Hall
18th May 2025

Birmingham: St Pauls Church
19th July 2025

Yorkshire Wildlife Park
31st August 2025

Isle of Wight: Shanklin Theatre
21st September 2025

Cardiff: New Theatre
12th October 2025

Northampton: Derngate
14th October 2025

Buxton Opera House
16th October 2025

Crewe Lyceum Theatre
17th October 2025

Shrewsbury Theatre Severn
20th October 2025

Harrogate: Royal Hall
22nd October 2025

Stoke-On-Trent: Victoria Hall
24th October 2025

London: Cadogan Hall
26th October 2025

Southend: Cliffs Pavilion
28th October 2025

Ipswich: Corn Exchange
30th October 2025

Wolverhampton: The Halls
31st October 2025

Cambridge: Corn Exchange
2nd November 2025

Watford: Colusseum
3rd November 2025

Guildford: G Live
4th November 2025

Swindon: Wyvern Theatre
6th November 2025

Cheltenham Town Hall
7th November 2025

Bournemouth Pavilion
8th November 2025

Brighton Dome
10th November 2025

York: The Barbican
11th November 2025

Liverpool: Philharmonic Hall
12th November 2025

Manchester: Bridgewater Hall
14th November 2025

Aberdeen: Music Hall
15th November 2025

Glasgow: Royal Concert Hall
17th November 2025

Nottingham: Royal Concert Hall
18th November 2025

Leicester: De Montfort Hall
19th November 2025

BRAND NEW ALBUM
OUT NOW!

Download now via Spotify, Apple Music, or buy online at Amazon

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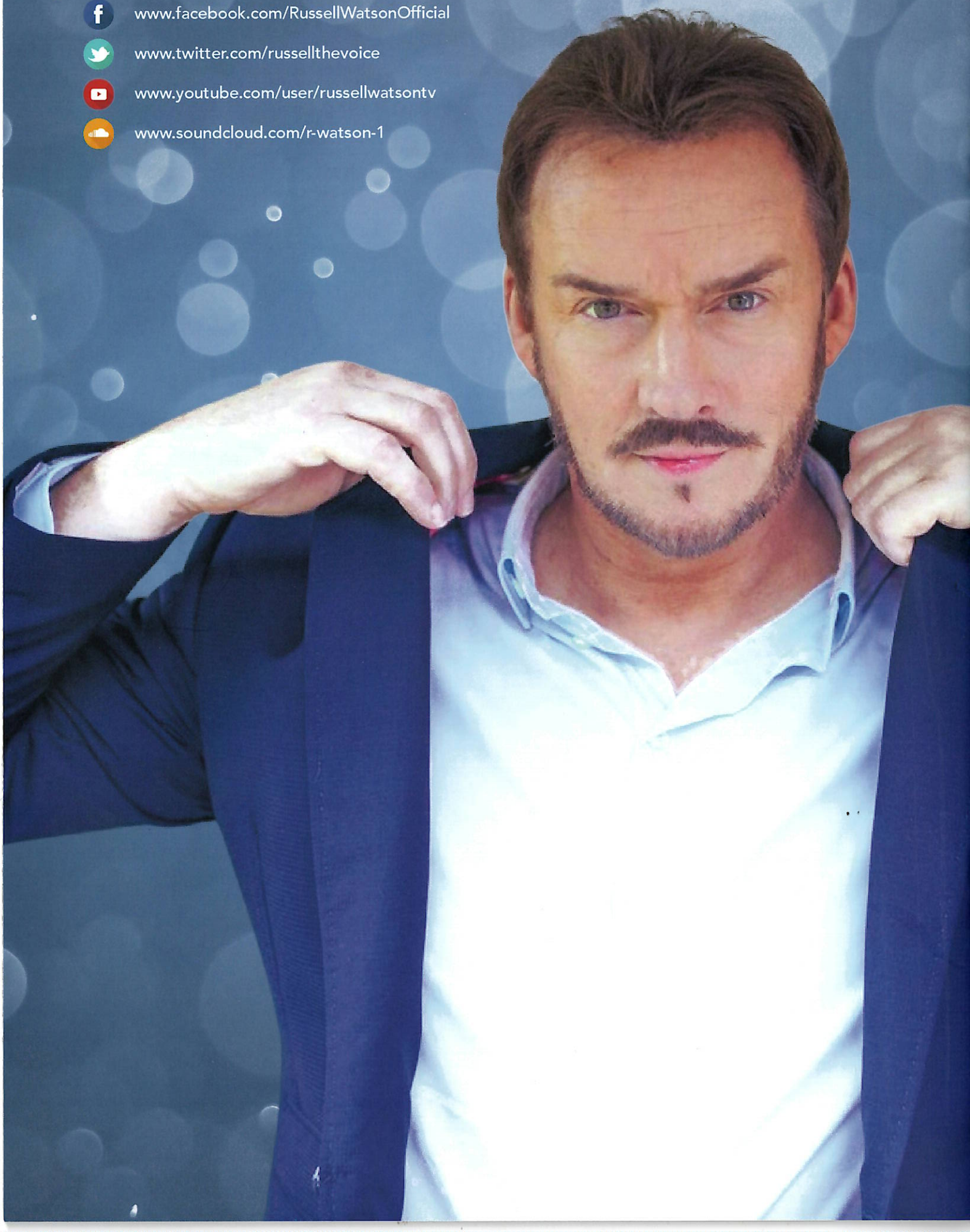
To see the latest news from Russell, you can keep in touch with him on social media via the below channels:

www.facebook.com/RussellWatsonOfficial

www.twitter.com/russellthevoice

www.youtube.com/user/russellwatsontv

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